

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF SWANTON ABBOTT HELD ON 15th. MARCH 2022 at 7.00p.m. in the VILLAGE HALL, SWANTON ABBOTT.

PRESENT –Cllrs. Vaughan (Chair), A Brown, & R Gee, the Clerk G Kimmerling, NCC & NNDC Cllr. Penfold, Cameron Lees & Luca Riccio from County Broadband & 8 members of the public.

Cllr. Vaughan invited Cameron Lees and Luca Riccio to give a presentation on Fast Fibre Broadband.

County Broadband is a specialist Internet Service Provider for rural villages. £46m has been invested from Aviva and more will follow. Many villages in Suffolk and Essex have been connected. Norfolk is a future project. At the moment most properties have superfast fibre to the cabinet and then copper to the property. The maximum speed along copper is 80Mbps which gets weaker with distance. Properties now have many more devices and many more uses for broadband. It is predicted that 1000Gbps will be needed by 2025. Full fibre to the property is much faster and can carry more data and, once installed, can easily grow by changing the cabinet and router. County Broadband makes no charge to the community but needs to ascertain if there is enough interest – 20/21% is needed. There is a Gigabit Broadband Voucher scheme available to providers from the Government. Once installed the provision is free to Village Halls and pubs. There is access to Openreach poles and ducts so there is minimum disruption. Customers can use the service free for one year if they have another contract. The first stage for County Broadband is to give talks to community groups (as tonight) and then to have on-line meetings to find out the interest. A project lead will be assigned to Swanton Abbott. People can already register an interest on the web-site – sales@countybroadband.co.uk. If given the go-ahead, it will take up to two years to complete.

After questions, Cameron & Luca left the meeting.

Open session for members of the public to speak.

No comments.

	AGENDA	<i>Action</i>
22.16	<p>a. <u>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</u> Cllr. Belsham – working & Dr. Day. b. <u>DECLARATION OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA.</u> None c. <u>TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON FEBRUARY 8th. 2022</u> Resolution. Proposed by Cllr. Brown, seconded by Cllr. Gee & agreed by the Parish Council to accept the Minutes of the meeting held on February 8th. 2022 as a true record. These were then signed by the Chair.</p>	
22.17	<p><u>CLERK'S REPORT AND UPDATE ON ITEMS FROM THE MINUTES</u></p> <p>a. An e-mail had been sent to Anglia Water re the hole in The Street but no reply had been received. NCC Cllr. Penfold said he had also written but had received no response. He will contact Highways on this issue. b. Mr. Talbot told the Clerk that the tree planting scheme was going ahead with the landowners.</p>	
22.18	<p><u>NORFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL AND NORTH NORFOLK DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORTS.</u> Cllr. Penfold said people wishing to offer accommodation to Ukranian refugees can register on the NCC web-site. There have been some problems with tension against foreign nationals who are not necessarily Russian. Donations of goods can be taken to North Walsham but the best way to help is with cash donations. People should be aware of the possibility of oil theft. The North Western Link road may be diverted around woodland.</p>	

	<p>There have been problems with mud on the roads so please report any issues. Highways are doing a Land Registry search to discover who owns the culvert in the Aylsham Road.</p> <p>NNDC have agreed to reach Carbon Net Zero by 2030 in the council. They have also passed a Motion for the Ocean on the sustainability of the seas. They will oppose the proposed Waste Incinerator on the outskirts of Kings Lynn.</p> <p>There is a creative writing, reading and live music called 'The Good Hour' in North Walsham library from 5th. April to 10th May. E-mail – lib.events@norfolk.gov.uk.</p> <p><i>Cllr. Penfold left the meeting.</i></p>	
22.19	<p><u>FINANCES</u></p> <p>a) <u>TO CONSIDER THE PRESENT FINANCIAL POSITION</u> The Clerk had produced up-to date accounts. £40 had been received for adverts in the Abbott.</p> <p>b) <u>TO CONSIDER AND RESOLVE WHETHER TO APPROVE OUTSTANDING INVOICES FOR PAYMENT.</u> Resolution. Proposed by Cllr. Brown, seconded by Cllr. Vaughan and approved by the Parish Council to pay the following invoices. The following payment was paid on-line before the meeting:- SR Print & Design Newsletter £158.00 The following payments were authorised to be paid on-line:- G Kimmerling Clerk's salary £ 328.66 G Kimmerling Clerk's expenses (including 37 phone calls for the year at 20p) £ 14.38 S A Village Hall Hire of hall £ 10.00 Wesleyan Chapel Hire of hall £ 10.00 C Belsham Chair's allowance ½ year £ 50.00 Norfolk ALC Membership £133.76</p> <p>c) <u>TO CONSIDER AND RESOLVE WHETHER TO APPROVE THE ESTIMATE FROM BGM SERVICES FOR MAINTENANCE</u> BGM Services had quoted £761.00 for maintenance. They will be asked if they can include cutting the grass on the triangle by Long Common Lane/Long Common Road. Resolution. Proposed by Cllr. Brown, seconded by Cllr. Vaughan and agreed by the Parish Council to accept the BGM Services quote but to get 3 quotes for next year.</p> <p>d) <u>TO CONSIDER THE INCREASED BOTTLE BANK SERVICE CHARGE</u> The present charge is £15 per ton and the proposed increase is to £30 per ton. This would still mean money would be raised for the Macmillan charity. Resolution. Proposed by Cllr. Gee, seconded by Cllr. Vaughan and agreed by the Parish Council to accept the increased Bottle Bank Service charge.</p> <p>e) <u>TO CONSIDER CONTINUING THE NORFOLK ALC MEMBERSHIP.</u> The membership fee for 2022/23 is £133.76. This had been approved under 22.19b.</p>	
22.20	<p><u>PLANNING</u></p> <p>a) <u>TO CONSIDER ANY PLANNING APPLICATIONS.</u> <u>PF/22/0492 Pine Trees, The Footpath, Aylsham Road</u> <u>Demolition of existing 2 storey side extension; erection of 2 storey side extension and front porch.</u> Approved prior to the meeting.</p>	

	<p>b) <u>TO NOTIFY OF ANY PLANNING DECISIONS BY NNDC</u> The following planning applications had been approved:- PF/20/1762 West Side, Cross Road PF/20/2593 Building North of Pond Farm Barn, The Hill PF/21/0106 The Willows, Aylsham Road PF/21/1481 Horton, Long Common Lane The following applications had been withdrawn:- PF/21/2382 & PF?21/2383 Sandfields Cottage, Youngmans Lane</p> <p>c) <u>TO CONSIDER ANY OTHER PLANNING ISSUES</u> .A resident had asked if planning permission was needed for a building to the front of Sandfields Cottage. The Clerk had contacted Planning but had received no response. She will try again.</p>	Clerk
22.21	<p><u>HIGHWAYS AND DRAINAGE ISSUES UPDATE</u> a) <u>HIGHWAYS INSPECTION VISIT IN APRIL.</u> Cllr. Vaughan said the missing Give Way sign in the Aylsham Road and the missing reflectors by the bridge had been reported. The Clerk will ask if The Street will be cleaned once the repairs have been carried out. The Clerk asked for any problems to be sent to her for the April inspection.</p>	Cllrs & Clerk
22.22	<p><u>TO CONSIDER CO-OPTION ONTO THE COUNCIL</u> Two people attended the Presentation meeting. There have been other expressions of interest in joining the Parish Council. The Parish Councillors will consider all applicants and will co-opt onto the council at the May meeting.</p>	Cllrs.
22.23	<p><u>TO CONSIDER AMENDING THE STANDING ORDERS TO COVER CORRESPONDENCE.</u> There had been some controversy over how the council dealt with correspondence. Resolution. Proposed by Cllr. Brown to send all correspondence to all councillors, the Clerk to precis this if required and send to all councillors and for all correspondence to be received at least 7 days prior to the meeting. This was seconded by Cllr. Gee and agreed by the Parish Council. The Clerk will amend the Standing Orders accordingly.</p>	Clerk
22.24	<p><u>COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT</u> a) <u>TO CONSIDER AND AGREE THAT THE REVELS BECOME INDEPENDENT OF THE PARISH COUNCIL AND TO AGREE TO RELEASE THE FUNDS HELD BY THE PARISH COUNCIL TO THE REVELS COMMITTEE.</u> Cllr. Brown said the Revels committee are unanimous in requesting this and the Parish Council agreed that the Revels should be independent and the funds will be released once the Revels have a bank account. b) <u>UPDATE ON JUBILEE PLANS IN THE VILLAGE.</u> Cllr. Brown said a number of groups were planning events such as the school the week before, the church and the SAS. An e-mail had been received about a Street Party which the Parish Council would support. Cllr. Brown will look into the requirements for closing a street. A request for ideas for a permanent memorial had been in the Abbott but, so far, there had been no response.</p>	Cllr Brown
22.25	<p><u>BROADBAND AND MOBILE PHONE UPDATE</u> County Broadband gave a presentation at the start of this meeting. There are other Broadband systems becoming available such as 5G and a Satellite alternative. No new information on Mobile phones.</p>	
22.26	<p><u>FOOTPATHS AND GREEN ISSUES UPDATE</u> The 'No Cycling' sign by Sandfields has been removed.</p>	Page 298

22.27	<p><u>VILLAGE SIGN; UPDATE ON QUOTES RECEIVED.</u> Cllr. Gee said the present village sign is beyond repair. She had received 3 quotes:- Nick Hindle – stone sign £3275 +VAT & £675 +VAT for the post Signs of the Times – polyurethane sign £3322, no post Village Sign People – cast aluminium sign £5476 plus cost of oak post. Nick Hindle would erect the post and sign included in the price. The Parish Council has precepted £1000 towards the cost. Some residents have expressed a wish to contribute too. Cllr. Gee will apply for funding once a sign has been agreed. Resolution. Proposed by Cllr. Brown, seconded by Cllr. Vaughan and agreed the Parish Council to accept Mr. Hindle’s quote and to ask him to make the sign once the funding is in place. If any residents would like to make a donation towards a new Village sign, please contact the Clerk at loomscot@live.co.uk or phone 01692 538971.</p>	<p>Cllr. Gee Cllr. Gee</p>
22.28	<p><u>ON-GOING ISSUES TO REPORT AND RESOLVE, WHERE POSSIBLE, ON-GOING COMMUNITY ISSUES.</u> Nothing to report. Cllr. Vaughan said 2 people are willing to take on responsibility for the Play Park and will meet with the councillors next month. More volunteers are needed. There are concerns with safety as the chain has been cut and people have got into the Play Park. It now has a heavy duty lock. The issue with fencing needs to be addressed.</p>	
22.29	<p><u>CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED.</u> The Clerk read out the following correspondence:- 2 e-mails expressing concern on how the Parish Council dealt with correspondence and concern that Anna Clarke is not keeping members of the public informed re the proposed Affordable Housing scheme. An e-mail to say that the crisp packet Re-cycling programme is being withdrawn in April so this will end at the Jolly Farmers on 31st March. The Cheese and Coffee pod schemes may not be worth continuing. Clerk’s and Councils Direct 140.</p>	
	<p>The meeting finished at 8.40p.m. The next meeting is May 10th. Annual Parish Meeting at 6.30. Annual Parish Council Meeting at 7.30.</p>	<p>Page 299</p>